

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE BILL 123

By: Gollihare

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to parole; amending 57 O.S. 2021, Section 332.7, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 273, O.S.L. 2022 (57 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 332.7), which relates to administrative parole; clarifying parole guidelines; making language gender neutral; updating statutory language; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2021, Section 332.7, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 273, O.S.L. 2022 (57 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 332.7), is amended to read as follows:

Section 332.7. A. For a crime committed prior to July 1, 1998, any person in the custody of the Department of Corrections shall be eligible for consideration for parole at the earliest of the following dates:

1. Has completed serving one-third (1/3) of the sentence;
2. Has reached at least sixty (60) years of age and also has served at least fifty percent (50%) of the time of imprisonment that would have been imposed for that offense pursuant to the applicable matrix, provided in Sections 598 through 601, Chapter 133, O.S.L.

1 1997; provided, however, no inmate serving a sentence for crimes
2 listed in Schedules A, S-1, S-2 or S-3 of Section 6, Chapter 133,
3 O.S.L. 1997, or serving a sentence of life imprisonment without
4 parole shall be eligible to be considered for parole pursuant to
5 this paragraph;

6 3. Has reached eighty-five percent (85%) of the midpoint of the
7 time of imprisonment that would have been imposed for an offense
8 that is listed in Schedule A, B, C, D, D-1, S-1, S-2 or S-3 of
9 Section 6, Chapter 133, O.S.L. 1997, pursuant to the applicable
10 matrix; provided, however, no inmate serving a sentence of life
11 imprisonment without parole shall be eligible to be considered for
12 parole pursuant to this paragraph; or

13 4. Has reached seventy-five percent (75%) of the midpoint of
14 the time of imprisonment that would have been imposed for an offense
15 that is listed in any other schedule, pursuant to the applicable
16 matrix; provided, however, no inmate serving a sentence of life
17 imprisonment without parole shall be eligible to be considered for
18 parole pursuant to this paragraph.

19 B. For a crime committed on or after July 1, 1998, and before
20 November 1, 2018, any person in the custody of the Department of
21 Corrections shall be eligible for consideration for parole who has
22 completed serving one-third (1/3) of the sentence; provided,
23 however, no inmate serving a sentence of life imprisonment without
24

1 parole shall be eligible to be considered for parole pursuant to
2 this subsection.

3 C. For a crime committed on or after November 1, 2018, any
4 person in the custody of the Department of Corrections shall be
5 eligible for parole after serving one-fourth (1/4) of the sentence
6 or consecutive sentences imposed, according to the following
7 criteria:

8 1. A person eligible for parole under this subsection shall be
9 eligible for administrative parole under subsection R of this
10 section once the person serves one-fourth (1/4) of the sentence or
11 consecutive sentences imposed; provided, however, no inmate serving
12 a sentence of life imprisonment without parole, a sentence for a
13 violent crime as set forth in Section 571 of this title or any crime
14 enumerated in Section 13.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes
15 shall be eligible for administrative parole; or

16 2. A person eligible for parole under this subsection shall be
17 eligible for parole once the person serves one-fourth (1/4) of the
18 sentence or consecutive sentences imposed; provided, however, no
19 inmate serving a sentence of life imprisonment without parole is
20 eligible for parole.

21 D. The parole hearings conducted for persons pursuant to
22 paragraph 3 of subsection A of this section or for any person who
23 was convicted of a violent crime as set forth in Section 571 of this
24 title and who is eligible for parole consideration pursuant to

1 paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section, subsection B of this
2 section or paragraph 2 of subsection C of this section shall be
3 conducted in two stages, as follows:

4 1. At the initial hearing, the Pardon and Parole Board shall
5 review the completed report submitted by the staff of the Board and
6 shall conduct a vote regarding whether, based upon that report, the
7 Board decides to consider the person for parole at a subsequent
8 meeting of the Board; and

9 2. At the subsequent meeting, the Board shall hear from any
10 victim or representatives of the victim that want to contest the
11 granting of parole to that person and shall conduct a vote regarding
12 whether parole should be recommended for that person.

13 E. Any inmate who has parole consideration dates calculated
14 pursuant to subsection A, B or C of this section may be considered
15 up to two (2) months prior to the parole eligibility date. Except
16 as otherwise directed by the Pardon and Parole Board, any person who
17 has been considered for parole and was denied parole or who has
18 waived consideration shall not be reconsidered for parole:

19 1. Within three (3) years of the denial or waiver, if the
20 person was convicted of a violent crime, as set forth in Section 571
21 of this title, and was eligible for consideration pursuant to
22 paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section, subsection B of this
23 section or paragraph 2 of subsection C of this section, unless the
24 person is within one (1) year of discharge; or

1 2. Until the person has served at least one-third (1/3) of the
2 sentence imposed, if the person was eligible for consideration
3 pursuant to paragraph 3 of subsection A of this section. Thereafter
4 the person shall not be considered more frequently than once every
5 three (3) years, unless the person is within one (1) year of
6 discharge.

7 F. Any person in the custody of the Department of Corrections
8 for a crime committed prior to July 1, 1998, who has been considered
9 for parole on a docket created for a type of parole consideration
10 that has been abolished by the Legislature shall not be considered
11 for parole except in accordance with this section.

12 G. The Pardon and Parole Board shall promulgate rules for the
13 implementation of subsections A, B and C of this section. The rules
14 shall include, but not be limited to, procedures for reconsideration
15 of persons denied parole under this section and procedure for
16 determining what sentence a person eligible for parole consideration
17 pursuant to subsection A of this section would have received under
18 the applicable matrix.

19 H. The Pardon and Parole Board shall not recommend to the
20 Governor any person who has been convicted of three or more felonies
21 arising out of separate and distinct transactions, with three or
22 more incarcerations for such felonies, unless such person shall have
23 served the lesser of at least one-third (1/3) of the sentence
24 imposed, or ten (10) years; provided, that whenever the population

1 of the prison system exceeds ninety-five percent (95%) of the
2 capacity as certified by the State Board of Corrections, the Pardon
3 and Parole Board may, at its discretion, recommend to the Governor
4 for parole any person who is incarcerated for a nonviolent offense
5 not involving injury to a person and who is within six (6) months of
6 his or her statutory parole eligibility date.

7 I. Inmates sentenced to consecutive sentences shall not be
8 eligible for parole consideration on any such consecutive sentence
9 until one-third (1/3) of the consecutive sentence has been served or
10 where parole has been otherwise limited by law, until the minimum
11 term of incarceration has been served as required by law. Unless
12 otherwise ordered by the sentencing court, any credit for jail time
13 served shall be credited to only one offense.

14 J. The Pardon and Parole Board shall consider the prior
15 criminal record of inmates under consideration for parole
16 recommendation or granting of parole.

17 K. In the event the Board grants parole for a nonviolent
18 offender who has previously been convicted of an offense enumerated
19 in Section 13.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes or Section 571
20 of this title, such offender shall be subject to nine (9) ~~months~~
21 months' postimprisonment supervision upon release.

22 L. It shall be the duty of the Pardon and Parole Board to cause
23 an examination to be made at the penal institution where the person
24 is assigned, and to make inquiry into the conduct and the record of

1 the ~~said~~ person during his or her custody in the Department of
2 Corrections, which shall be considered as a basis for consideration
3 of ~~said~~ such person for recommendation to the Governor for parole.
4 However, the Pardon and Parole Board shall not be required to
5 consider for parole any person who has completed the time period
6 provided for in this subsection if the person has participated in a
7 riot or in the taking of hostages, or has been placed on escape
8 status, while in the custody of the Department of Corrections. The
9 Pardon and Parole Board shall adopt policies and procedures
10 governing parole consideration for such persons.

11 M. Any person in the custody of the Department of Corrections
12 who is convicted of an offense not designated as a violent offense
13 by Section 571 of this title, is not a citizen of the United States
14 and is subject to or becomes subject to a final order of deportation
15 issued by the United States Department of Justice shall be
16 considered for parole to the custody of the United States
17 Immigration and Naturalization Service for continuation of
18 deportation proceedings at any time subsequent to reception and
19 processing through the Department of Corrections. No person shall
20 be considered for parole under this subsection without the
21 concurrence of at least three members of the Pardon and Parole
22 Board. The vote on whether or not to consider such person for
23 parole and the names of the concurring Board members shall be set
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1 forth in the written minutes of the meeting of the Board at which
2 the issue is considered.

3 N. Upon application of any person convicted and sentenced by a
4 court of this state and relinquished to the custody of another state
5 or federal authorities pursuant to Section 61.2 of Title 21 of the
6 Oklahoma Statutes, the Pardon and Parole Board may determine a
7 parole consideration date consistent with the provisions of this
8 section and criteria established by the Pardon and Parole Board.

9 O. All references in this section to matrices or schedules
10 shall be construed with reference to the provisions of Sections 6,
11 598, 599, 600 and 601, Chapter 133, O.S.L. 1997.

12 P. Any person in the custody of the Department of Corrections
13 who is convicted of a felony sex offense pursuant to Section 582 of
14 this title who is paroled shall immediately be placed on intensive
15 supervision.

16 Q. A person in the custody of the Department of Corrections
17 whose parole consideration date is calculated pursuant to subsection
18 B or C of this section, and is not serving a sentence of life
19 imprisonment without parole or who is not convicted of an offense
20 designated as a violent offense by Section 571 of this title or any
21 crime enumerated in Section 13.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma
22 Statutes shall be eligible for administrative parole under
23 subsection R of this section.

1 R. The Pardon and Parole Board shall, by majority vote, grant
2 administrative parole to any person in the custody of the Department
3 of Corrections if:

4 1. The person has substantially complied with the requirements
5 of the case plan established pursuant to Section 512 of this title
6 and:

7 a. a victim, as defined in Section 332.2 of this title,
8 or the district attorney speaking on behalf of a
9 victim, has not submitted an objection,

10 ~~b. the person has not received a primary class X~~
11 ~~infraction within two (2) years of the parole~~
12 ~~eligibility date,~~

13 ~~e.~~ the person has not received a ~~secondary~~ class X
14 infraction within one (1) year of the parole
15 eligibility date, and

16 ~~d.~~ c. the person has not received a class A infraction
17 within six (6) months of the parole eligibility date;
18 or

19 2. The person is within six (6) calendar months of his or her
20 discharge date and a victim, as defined in Section 332.2 of this
21 title, or the district attorney speaking on behalf of the victim,
22 has not submitted an objection.

23 S. Any person granted parole pursuant to subsection R of this
24 section shall be released from the institution at the time of the
25

1 parole eligibility date of the person as calculated under subsection
2 B or C of this section.

3 T. Any person eligible for parole pursuant to subsection R of
4 this section shall not waive his or her consideration.

5 U. No less than ninety (90) days prior to the parole
6 eligibility date of the person, the Department shall notify the
7 Pardon and Parole Board in writing of the compliance or
8 noncompliance of the person with the case plan and any infractions
9 committed by the person.

10 V. The Pardon and Parole Board shall not be required to conduct
11 a hearing before granting administrative parole pursuant to
12 subsection R of this section.

13 W. Any person who is not granted administrative parole shall be
14 otherwise eligible for parole pursuant to this section.

15 X. Any person who is granted administrative parole under
16 subsection R of this section shall be supervised and managed by the
17 Department of Corrections in the same manner as a parolee who has
18 been granted parole pursuant to this section. The person shall be
19 subject to all of the rules and regulations of parole.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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